| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Cooch Behar** | | | | | |
| 20 | Extension of runway to 4500 ft. | 6.17 | 3500 feet | 3700 feet | Land acquired by State Govt. | Detailed planning in progress for extension upto 4500 ft. |

**Operation of National Aviation Company of India Ltd.**

2338. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to implement agreements that had been allied with employees related to wages and cadre policy etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken in detail to earmark aviation policy to make a stiff competition to private operators, by the National Aviation Company of India Ltd. (NACIL) as per the market dynamics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Agreements/Settlements reached with the Unions/Associations of both the erstwhile companies are in the process of implementation. Revision of pay scales have been affected in respect of all employees represented by five Unions/Associations, which have arrived at an understanding with the management, and the executives of the erstwhile Indian airlines. The arrears of wages have been paid/are being paid as per the agreements and action has been initiated to implement the settlement/ understanding on career progression. In respect of erstwhile Air India, in most of the cases where agreements/settlements have been signed, wage arrears or advance have been paid.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Merger of Air India Limited and Indian Airlines Limited into National Aviation Company of Indian Limited has been effected to improve the operational performance/ profitability and to face the increasing competition in the aviation market. The merger has the potential to provide substantial synergy for procurement, sales and distribution besides affording an opportunity for financial restructuring/strengthening by leveraging common assets. Further, the airlines have been permitted to add more capacity by purchasing 111 state-of-the-art new aircraft. Other commercial measures such as route rationalization alongwith introduction of services on new routes, product improvement and joining of "Star Alliance" have also been taken by NACIL to effectively face composition.

**Problem of long queues at Delhi Airport**

2339. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the interim measures taken by Government to deal with the claustrophobic conditions prompted by construction work going on at the New Delhi airport; and

(b) the proposed measures to deal with the long queues and rush at the airport entrance and immigration counters that cause troubles to domestic as well as international passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Following steps have been taken to facilitate passengers and avoid rush and long queues during the ongoing upgradation and modernization works at the terminals of IGI airport:

(i) Space for passenger movement and smooth operation has been increased by relocating Airline Offices outside the International Terminal building.

(ii) Modernisation activities have been rescheduled to implement them in a phased manner to minimise inconvenience to passengers.

(iii) New flight information display boards have been installed to facilitate passengers.

(iv) An agency has been deployed at the international terminal to guide the passengers to respective check-in counters.

(v) Security check gates have been increased from 8 to 14. Number of immigration counters on the departure side is being increased from 28 to 44 and further to 52. On arrival side, the immigration counters are being increased from 28 to 48.

(vi) Hand-baggage x-ray machines at international terminal have been increased from 8 to 12 which would further go upto 16 by June, 2008. The check-in counters would increase from 78 to 100 by June, 2008.

**Training of pilots**

2340. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Civil Aviation Training Colleges in India in Public Sector and Private Sector and the total number of persons passing out every year;

(b) to what extent these institutions could meet the demand of the country;

(c) whether there is a move from MITRE Corporation of America to assist the Civil Aviation Training Colleges in imparting World Class Training;

(d) if so, the outcome of the proposal; and

(e) whether there would be a plan to establish a similar organization in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) At present there are 43 flying clubs out of which 28 are in Public Sector and 15 in Private Sector. The total intake capacity of these flying clubs is around 950 trainees. Approximately 400 licences have been issued to Indian students coming out of these flying clubs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**FDI in Aviation Sector**

2341. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: